

COMPLETE BUSINESS KIT

VINYL TRANSFER

Create

•T-SHIRTS •JERSEYS •HATS •BAGS •AND MORE!

Congratulations on purchasing the vinyl transfer business kit!

Now that you have taken the first step into starting your own vinyl transfer business, you are on the way to creating professional t-shirts, hats, bags, and more with your recently purchased products from Coastal Business Supplies! We have a couple of tips to help you get set up and on your way.

quick guide

1. Design your graphic/text in the included software or your favorite design program.
2. Send your artwork to the cutter and cut.
3. Weed away excess vinyl around artwork and press with heat press at recommended settings.



WHAT'S IN THE BOX

Vinyl Cutter



The cutter is the first piece of equipment you should open and set up. This is the machine that will be cutting out of all your artwork. Each Graphtec vinyl cutter includes a tutorial CD that guides you through setting up the cutter and using the software. Please watch this video before you begin setting up your equipment. Software is included with every vinyl cutter, however it is very limited. You can create text, numbers, shapes, and freehand drawings. For more intricate artwork, you can cut directly from softwares like Adobe Illustrator and CorelDraw with the included plugin. For other softwares, you will need to save your design as an image file (see software for accepted file types) and import it in the software.

Heat Transfer Vinyl Rolls

We have included two rolls of heat transfer vinyl (colors varies) for you to practice with.

How it works:

If your image is a logo or a graphic, our Digi-Cut vinyl is probably the best choice for you. Easyweed is the second roll included. Because of its adhesive backing, this vinyl works best with small letters or numbers. There are many colors to choose from and no printing required! You can not cut all images from heat transfer vinyl. Images with lots of colors cannot be cut out on this vinyl. We suggest using our heat transfer paper and using the print and cut feature. See the tutorial video for instructions. Here is an example of a graphic that can be cut with cut vinyl. It is also a two color job. Notice the solid color shapes and how you must divide up the areas to cut on different color vinyls.



Weeding Tools

A weeding tool is similar to tweezers. After your vinyl is cut, a weeding tool is used to help pull away the excess vinyl that you don't want around your vinyl. As you pull away the vinyl, you will reveal the image that stays on the clear sticky backing. You will also need to use the weeding tools to remove the insides of letters or shapes like "o" and "e."

Teflon Cover

The teflon cover sheet is a light colored piece of 18"x20" teflon. This piece is required in the transfer process with some of our vinyls. It is also used to keep the bottom of the platen clean! Teflon covers can be re-used over and over again.



Heat Press

If you selected the option to add a heat press, then I am sure you have already seen it because you can't miss it! If you haven't, it's the large heavy equipment that has a lever on top. Think of this machine like a large iron, only hotter and way more powerful. This machine doesn't print on to your garment, but transfers an image that you have previously printed with your printer. We recommend reading your heat press manual before using. When transferring images to items, you will be required to adjust settings on your heat press such as the pressure, temperature, and time. Your items that you are transferring to will determine these settings. If your press is manual, the *pressure* is usually controlled by a knob located on the top of your press that can be turned both clockwise and counter-clockwise. Turn it to the right to increase to a heavier pressure. And to the left, to decrease the pressure. You should test the pressure by increasing and decreasing while closing and opening the press. This will help you understand how this features works. The heavier the pressure, the harder it should be to pull down the lever and close. The *temperature* will either be a setting on the LCD screen or a knob that will sync with the thermostat reading. And the *time* will also be either set on the LCD screen or, on the smaller presses, you will have a separate time that can be used. If you have a more advanced digital press, most of your settings may need to be adjusted on the LCD screen. Refer to your heat press's manual for instructions on how to control these features.



Optional Pieces

iDesignR Designing Software

This software is a more advanced software to design your artwork in than the average free software that most vinyl cutters include. If you chose this software as an ad on, then take some time to learn it by testing different ideas you may have. There is an included training DVD that can help aide you in the process.



Printer

If your image is too colorful for heat transfer vinyl, you probably chose the option to add an inkjet printer and are going to be printing and cutting. It is the first step in creating customized apparel and other fabric items. You should have received an Epson or Ricoh Inkjet Printer. (whichever you chose when ordering) Setup your printer by plugging it in and installing the Epson Software. You may need to visit www.Epson.com to download the newest and most up to date driver if you have any trouble. Within the Graphtec/Roland Software, you will be using the print & cut feature that will place registration marks and cut lines around your image. You will then place your transfer paper in the printer to be printed and then into the cutter to be cut. See tutorial video for instructions or refer to the cutter's user manual.



Heat Transfer Paper

Vinyl cutters can even be used with some select heat transfer papers. Most heat transfer papers have that dreaded polymer background window around your image. Vinyl cutters are a great tool when you want a clean cut professional transfer. They include their own software and the Graphtec models even include video tutorials that will help you easily master the operation of the machine in no time. Once you unpack your cutter, locate the included video and spend some time watching it. It will walk you through step-by-step from setting up the cutter to using the software. You will be a pro in as little as a few hours! We recommend not rushing into production...but making some test runs so that you are fully educated on your new machine prior to taking on a job!

For technical support, please call 1-800-562-7760 or you can use our live chat at www.coastalbusiness.com

TIPS

Time, Temp, and Pressure:

Remember heat transfer papers and vinyl love time, temp, and pressure!

Peeling up:

Heat Transfer Vinyl has a set of particular instructions that should followed, but if you are having trouble getting it to adhere to a hard to transfer textile like a sweatshirt, you may need to adjust your temperature and pressure settings.

Pressing two colors vinyls:

Press the first color for half of the recommended time. Peel. Press the second color for the recommended time. The first color will get the rest of the time it needs during the second color's pressing.

Transfer paper won't transfer completely:

Check your heat transfer paper's instructions for accurate settings such as time, temperature, and pressure. You may need to use heavier pressure during pressing. *If you think your heat press is not heating up correctly, contact the heat press manufacturer for assistance.

Transfer paper is cracking:

Cracking can be caused because the transfer hasn't settled into the fabric so when the fabric weave is pulled apart, the transfer can pull apart. To prevent this, stretch the transfer immediately after pressing while still tacky. *If you are using a "cold peel" transfer paper, for less cracking we suggest changing to a "hot peel."

Transfer paper is bleeding:

If your transfers are bleeding after the wash, this may be because there was too much ink put down during the print. Transfer papers can not absorb the amount of ink that most photo printers put down. So the excess ink stays sitting on top the transfer causing it to run when it comes in contact with water. Try printing on a lower quality mode like "text/graphics" and on "plain paper" settings. You also should make sure that the transfers are being wash carefully with cold water, inside out, no heavy detergents, and no fabric softeners or bleach.

For a softer hand transfer paper:

Give the transfer a few stretches immediately after pressing while still tacky.